



NRLCA FACT SHEET

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Maintaining Service Standards

In January of 2015, the Postal Service implemented a plan to reduce service standards for first-class mail and move ahead with the second phase of their network rationalization plan to close an additional 82 mail processing facilities, impacting 37 states. Currently, the plan for further plant closures is on hold. These processing plants currently serve small cities and rural areas. This ill-considered plan will further shrink the Postal Service's network, threatening the principle obligation "to give universal service to the American people."

The recent change to reduce service standards nearly eliminated all overnight mail delivery. A large percentage of mail is not meeting the current USPS lowered service standards. With an even longer delay if weekends and holidays are involved. Delivering mail to each customer in a prompt manner has always been a critical element of the United States Postal Service's service standards.

Citizens and businesses in rural areas depend upon receiving mail in a timely manner. They depend on mail delivery for their communications, e-commerce, financial statements and medicine. Eliminating overnight delivery hurts the communities and economies that depend on the Postal Service as part of the emerging global economy.

Last Congress, a bipartisan majority of members agreed the Postal Service should restore service standards.

NRLCA Position

The NRLCA supports H. Res 31 that would restore previous service standards for customers.

Contact Paul Swartz at pswartz@nrlca.org if you have any questions or would like more information on protecting service standards.